

*It will be lunch
"to the max"
during Safety & Total
Health Day.*

Astronaut band to serenade Safety & Total Health participants

After an enlightening morning focused on safety and health issues, JSC employees will enjoy the spacey mid-day music of the "Max Q" astronaut band.

The orbital ensemble will perform stellar selections from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. outside the Bldg. 3 cafeteria. Carry-out lunches will be available from the cafeteria to take out to the lawn, where connoisseurs of fine food and fine music will be able to relax - perhaps even in the shade of a tree - and indulge both passions.

Extra trash bins will be set up so that JSC can be kept clean. Take advantage of this chance to hear the band perform their far-out tunes. ■

Words of the wise, the witty, the wondrous

By Mary Peterson

We at JSC are in for an extraordinary treat. Never before has such an impressive array of speakers been scheduled for a single event on site—to inspire, to inform, to challenge, and even entertain—with messages that will guide their listeners to a better life. If there is a single mantra to their presence, it would be, you can't control your life until you learn to control your own safety (Austin Davis).

The three headline speakers, Dr. Robert Conn, John Debringer, and Austin Davis, each nationally known, are as diverse as they are stimulating.

The first, Dr. Robert Conn, who will give the keynote address at 9 a.m., is a former children's cardiovascular specialist who quit his life's work to devote his time to the safety education of others. In a recent telephone interview, the obvious question was asked, "Why give up a lucrative medical practice to go into the world of safety?," a pursuit hardly known for having money thrown at it. Conn laughed, "Most would probably say because I'm stupid," but there was, in fact, a deep, underlying reason that few others



Dr. Robert Conn

could experience. He explained, "As a doctor, I was part of the organ transplant team. One month at the hospital where I was working, we harvested five hearts from children all under the age of 3. All had drowned in home swimming pools, and I thought, none of these accidents had to happen."

This was a turning point for Conn who soon after developed the SmartRisk Foundation, headquartered in Toronto, Ontario, Canada, that has become a national resource for safety education. Its programs are highly innovative and appeal to a wide variety of audiences, including those thought to be impervious to anything new that smacks of safety - teenagers. "Safety is boring. Safety isn't cool" are what we get from teens," says Conn. That is, until SmartRisk came up with HEROES and "Stupid-Line," two immensely popular programs that draw not only teens' attention but has attracted their willing participation.

SmartRisk is Conn's impossible dream, dedicated to helping people make the right (smart) choices to preserve and enhance their lives. You'll want to hear more.

The second speaker, John Debringer, in a word, is "a hoot." Debringer is that rare embodiment of



John Debringer

teacher and performer, both of which he does amazingly well. And, amaze you he will. For, not only is he a gifted speaker and teaching professional on the unlikely subject of how to communicate safety, he is also a certified hypnotist and accomplished magician—so watch your wallet! Watch your funnybone too, because Debringer's trademark is to leave 'em laughing while learning. Even off the cuff, he is so entertaining, that JSC's own Public Affairs Office thanked the safety folks for "allowing" them to give him a recent on-site tour. Prepare to learn and laugh at this session.

Austin Davis, the third headliner, is back for a repeat performance of his very successful seminar on Defensive Driving and Crosswalk Safety held at JSC this spring. Davis, a former police officer, has seen a lot of safety (and lack of it) up close and personal, and he has a wise and witty grip on the human condition. Combine that with his experience as a professional comedian and experienced corporate trainer, and

you have a dynamite presenter. Davis has appeared on numerous television shows, including *Jay Leno*, *Donahue*, and *City Under Siege*.

In addition to the above, JSC will offer numerous other speakers. See Schedule for times and location. ■



Austin Davis



NASA JSC Photo S99-11603 by James Blair

COME RAIN OR COME SHINE, THE DAY WILL BE FINE (October 20), promises the Safety & Total Health Day Planning Committee. Left to right: Jonathan Manning, Sheilla Goldberg, Emily Venski, Sandra Amundson, Missy Bryant, Chuck Sawin, Sharon Kemp, Ginger Gibson, Rachel Windham, Stacey Menard, Rindy Carmichael, Mary Peterson, Greta Ayers, Perry Bennett, Larry Wier, Tim Kropp, and Terri Blackwelder.

First, it was Oscar! Then it was Emmy. Then it was Tony. Now it's George!

It's an Academy Award of sorts for JSC fitness, and the very first one ever to be presented.

How do you win a George Award for your directorate? Just encourage the largest number of people you can to join the Health Run-Walk on Safety & Total Health Day. The directorate having the largest percentage participating wins a handsome trophy to display until next year's Safety & Total Health Day, when the defending champ can reclaim the prize or relinquish it to another winner (just like the "America's Cup").

In case you're wondering, the George Award was named for none other than our Center Director, George Abbey, who, more than any other person, has been the force behind our great safety and health program at JSC. You'll be proud to have the George Award in your directorate! ■